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INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS PANEL

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Palestine truce problems. The second truce has been in effect for ten days without exciting violent Arab popular reaction, which lends credence to the belief that an unstable truce will be maintained in Palestine at least until the General Assembly meets in September. Mediator Bernadotte reportedly hopes to submit to the GA a settlement satisfactory to both Arab and Jew. His problem in the intervening period, therefore, is to discover, through negotiation with both sides, the possible bases of compromise which would permit an agreed solution.

Meanwhile the proposed demilitarization of Jerusalem is meeting Arab-Jewish resistance. The Arab League has announced three conditions -- cessation of Jewish immigration, return of Arab refugees and an effective ban on Jewish arms imports -- as its price for not only demilitarization but continuance of the truce. On the other hand the Provisional Government of Israel is reluctant to agree to demilitarization because of its fear of exposing the 100,000 Jews in Jerusalem to outside attack. It also has to contend with dissident elements, strongly entrenched in Jerusalem, who violently oppose any withdrawal of Israeli forces. Recent PGI action in declaring Jerusalem Israeli occupied territory together with preparations to set up a military government there may well be either a maneuver to enforce control over the dissidents or an attempt to create a bargaining point in the discussions over demilitarization.

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1949 SC elections pose problem. Filling the non-permanent Security Council seats now held by Belgium, Syria and Colombia may prove to be a thorny problem for the GA this fall. India, defeated in a protracted battle with the Ukraine last year, has placed on the GA agenda a complaint that past SC elections have failed to meet Charter requirements for fair geographical distribution of the non-permanent seats. Meanwhile, jockeying for position is already underway. The US strongly feels that the Belgian seat should continue to be occupied by a North or West European state and is considering Norway or Denmark for that vacancy. (The only eligible states in this category are the

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Netherlands which preceded Belgium, Luxembourg, Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Iceland.) Although India may be nominated to represent the Middle East, Turkey or Pakistan might prove more acceptable to the Arab states. Colombia's seat, of course, falls to Latin America.

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Possible South African withdrawal from the UN. South African UN delegate Jacklin, asked by his Government to report on probable future US policy and the extent to which it will be conducted through the UN, believes this report may be used to back a decision to withdraw from the organization. South Africa was under heavy fire in the last GA over the treatment of its Indian minority and its refusal to place mandated South West Africa under the trusteeship system. The former question has already been placed on the forthcoming GA agenda by India and the submission of a report on the latter is set for September. If not withdrawing entirely from the UN, the new nationalist Government may well be expected to take a much stiffer attitude on these problems.

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UN may get Hyderabad-India case. Under increasing pressure from India for accession to that state, independent Hyderabad is reportedly preparing for the possible submission of the matter to the SC. Pakistan, Hyderabad's most likely supporter, although undoubtedly sympathetic, may not be willing to prejudice a favorable decision from the UN Kashmir Commission by sponsoring a new case at this time. Another sympathetic Moslem state might take up the issue, however.

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Revival of East-West divisions in the WFTU. Storm signals for the World Federation of Trade Unions were evident last week in two developments pointing to renewed East-West conflict at the Executive Committee's September meeting in Paris. The Communist-controlled Free German Trade Union (FDGB) in Berlin has charged the US Deputy Commandant with denying the FDGB freedom of activity within the US Sector and asked the WFTU to protest. However, the US representative (CIO) in the WFTU supported the action of the US Military Government and any Soviet-sponsored move to obtain WFTU endorsement of the protest will probably run into strong opposition from US and UK members. Furthermore, the International Transport Workers Federation (ITF), meeting in Oslo

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last week, rejected its British member's appeal for renewed negotiations towards affiliation with the WFTU and insisted on continued independence of action. Since the German trade union question and the status of the international craft unions are major unresolved issues between the western and Soviet elements in the WFTU, continued unity will depend largely on the handling of these questions in the September meeting.

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Exiled European labor leaders organize. Eastern European trade unionists representing banned labor organizations in Yugoslavia, Roumania, Poland and Hungary met secretly in Paris last week to plan an international coordinating committee for free trade unionists in exile. Sponsored and strongly supported by the American Federation of Labor, the Committee will also include Czech and Spanish Socialist trade union representatives. A monthly information bulletin is planned to supply data on trade union conditions in the Soviet and satellite countries while the Committee will establish liaison with foreign language groups in the US and make use of radio facilities in an effort to counter-act propaganda of the Communist labor movement. Formation of the Committee, to be announced at the 29 July ERP Trade Union Conference in London, further reflects AFL impatience with the slow progress of the 15-nation ERP Trade Union Advisory Committee and AFL determination to organize non-Communist European labor against the USSR.

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Soviet veto of TC supervision of strategic trusts unlikely. The role of the Trusteeship Council in strategic trust areas, over which the UN Charter specifies primary SC control, has been provisionally defined by a Joint SC-TC Committee as entailing general TC responsibility for the supervision of administration in these areas. The USSR has been vehemently opposing any TC activities whatsoever in strategic areas, maintaining the SC had exclusive jurisdiction. The Ukrainian representative, however, has recently indicated he will abstain in an SC vote on the Committee's decision and expressed the belief that the Soviet representative will do likewise rather than use his veto.

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CCA suspends activities. Following the lead of the Atomic Energy Commission, the Commission on Conventional Armaments virtually ended operations this week with the passage, 9-2 (USSR-

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Ukraine), of a US-UK resolution stating peace must be made with Germany and Japan before any reduction in arms is possible. Failure to reach any agreed solution will make reference of the matter to the GA inevitable. As in the AEC, the western states decided no solution was possible in view of an adamant Soviet position. It is probable, however, that the USSR may make certain concessions in the GA to keep discussion alive -- a policy used repeatedly in the past in delaying action on an issue considered vital to its interests.

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